



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

*Federal Building
55 Pleasant Street, Room 352
Concord, New Hampshire 03301*

603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
June 18, 2003

Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono
United States Attorney
(603) 225-1552
Robert M. Kinsella
Assistant U.S. Attorney

**FORMER RESIDENT OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE PLEADS
GUILTY TO IDENTITY THEFT AND BANK FRAUD CHARGES**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Kenneth Jones, the Postal Inspector-in-Charge of the Boston Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service, today announced that Erico Davias, a former resident of Rye, New Hampshire, who pleaded guilty to bank fraud and identify theft last November, was sentenced to 27 months in jail and 3 years of supervised release by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court, Paul Barbadoro.

Davias, age 55, committed the bank fraud offense by transferring and attempting to transfer more than \$400,000 from bank accounts belonging to other people at other banks into certificate of deposit accounts he had established through the internet at Provident Bank, a federally insured bank located in Tilton, New Hampshire.

Davias committed the identify theft offense by using another person's name and personal identification to obtain a credit card, which Davias then used to purchase products and services totaling approximately \$4,600.

After Davias was sentenced, U.S. Attorney Colantuono said, "Financial fraud and identity theft are growing problems in New Hampshire. This office, working together with federal, state, and local law enforcement, will do everything we can to protect our citizens and punish those who victimize others through fraud." This case was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Robert Kinsella.